

Ohio Long Term Recovery Committee (LTRC)

April 4, 2012

Chair Report – Pastor Jim Dinkel

The Long Term Recovery Committee (LTRC) will be using the Ohio VOAD 501C(3) to establish a bank account for all of the financial donations.

The LTRC mission statement is: “To assist the people of the Ohio River Valley to recover from and restore their lives after any disaster in a timely manner.”

Kathy Coulson from Park National Bank has agreed to be the LTRC Treasurer. In the past the LTRC did not have a treasury. The outpouring of donations and fundraisers now requires that a LTRC treasury be established. A centralized account will be established at Park National Bank. At this time there is not an account name. It will most likely be Ohio Valley LTRC Disaster Fund. River Hills Bank is also raising funds. These funds will be rolled into the Park National Bank Account. Funds will be used to meet the unmet needs (e.g. supplies to rebuild/repair homes which will be stored at the Donation Center and then delivered to the home when it is needed.)

Batavia Rotary is offering \$10,000 to go towards new beds (mattress, box springs, and frame). Pastor Dinkel is currently working with Mattress Warehouse in Eastgate to establish a voucher system. Mattress Warehouse would deliver the beds to the resident free of charge.

Pastor Dinkel asked that the Advocates to remind community members to keep all receipts. There is a good possibility that they will be asked to show receipts throughout the process. Attached is an article from FEMA on using money wisely. The article can also be found at: <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=61736>

Vice Chair Report – Beth Nevel

Beth introduced the Community Advocates to assist with outreach to residents in the impacted Townships and the Village of Moscow. They know the communities and the residents. They have been brought up to speed on the Long Term Recovery Committee (LTRC) and the on-going recovery efforts.

Last Friday, Federal Home Loan Bank announced the Disaster Reconstruction Program which will provide up to \$5 million in grants to assist homeowners repair or rebuild throughout the tri-state area. . This program could provide up to \$20,000.00 per household. For more information, go to the following link: <https://web.fhlbcin.com/HOUSING/PROGRAMS/DisasterReconstructionProgram/Pages/DisasterReconstructionProgram.aspx>

We received an inquiry from Hosanna Industries to provide and coordinate a large construction build for 3 to 4 months. The group is just returning from working in Joplin, MO where they built 50 structures with over 1200 volunteers. We are in the process of vetting the group and identifying if this is a possibility for our community. We would need to commit to feeding and housing volunteers. Potentially we could house volunteers at New Richmond Schools, but it would have to be in the summer when school is not in session. They would bring 12 skilled contractors and we would fill the void with volunteers. We would need to work closely with the County on the mitigation and permit requirements. Also need to address the licensing of out of state skilled workers. There are criteria that individuals and families would need to meet: eligibility for the Federal Home Loan Bank grant and rebuilding of the structure to the specifications of the previous floor plan (minor modifications may be eligible). More information will be provided next week.

The question was raised if mobile home owners could build a stick home. Yes, Habitat for Humanity may be an option for some residents. It takes an average of 18 months to get through the process. Habitat is working to expedite the qualification process. Any new build/installation of mobile home will have to built to code. Building Codes have changed since the 1997 Flood to improve safety. As a result of recent storms, there may be additional wind requirements in the future.

The Presbyterian Disasters Assistance may be to help with working with local churches/schools on the hosting responsibilities.

Clermont County Economic Development (Annette Decatur) has realigned funds from Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Neighborhood Stabilization funds to assist with private owner rehabilitation, home repairs, demolition (including barns and outbuildings), and debris removal.

Brown County Economic Development (Kelly Coleman) has Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) funds to replace water heaters, windows, and doors.

Spiritual and Emotional Care (SEC) – Pastor Ron Mathews

Ron Mathews was unable to make the meeting. The Spiritual and Emotional Care team is willing and able to assist individuals and families impacted by the tornado and also to debrief volunteer teams that have provided assistance to the impacted areas.

Donations Management – Roy Nelson

Roy Nelson was unable to make the meeting. The Donation Center is located at the Red Barn, 299 Haskell Lane, Batavia, Ohio and is being run by the Seventh Day Adventist Disaster Response. The Donation Center is a collection site only. We are working to establish a satellite location in Moscow. The Center is not accepting food or clothing. They are looking for bed linens, towels, and other household items in sets. The Community Journal Article was discussed.

There is a need to cover the on-going monthly utility bills – approximately \$350.

Volunteer Management

The LTRC is still without a Volunteer Management Coordinator. The Volunteer Coordinator could work from anywhere. There was a discussion on breaking the position into more manageable components such as housing of volunteers, feeding volunteers while on site, linking volunteers to specific needs, etc. It is recommended that volunteers have a background check, have some liability coverage, sign a volunteer waiver and have up to date tetanus shots.

Habitat for Humanity uses an on-line volunteer coordination tool called VolunteerHub to register and match volunteers to the need. The volunteers can also get the volunteer waiver.

A volunteer coordination task force was established to address the volunteer management issue. The task force will deal with housing, feeding, registering and coordinating volunteer groups.

Concern was voiced about insurance liability issues if a volunteer is injured on private property. Even if the volunteer signs a waiver, they could still sue the homeowner. All Ohio VOAD organizations have to have liability insurance. It was recommended that all volunteer efforts be coordinated through registered Ohio VOAD organizations. Spontaneous volunteers will need to be a part of a registered VOAD organization.

All volunteer projects should be identified and submitted through the Case Manager.

Projects on the Horizon

- Home Repair / Rebuild
- Tree trimming/salvage/replacement
 - Southern Baptist Chain Saw teams may be an option for trimming needs to salvage trees
 - Farmers' Insurance – tree planting in the Fall
 - A Moscow Tree Committee was established; Coordinated by Linda Carter
 - LTRC will be reaching out to Arborists, Cincinnati Zoo and Museum Center, Spring Grove Cemetery, and Clermont County Park District for assistance in saving trees.
- Debris Removal in Streams – Moscow Cemetery Road; Flash flooding could be a potential issue
- Debris Removal on Farms

- One farm has reached out for assistance. Bev has been working with her home church to provided assistance;

Government Report

Small Business Administration is still taking application via phone or on-line. The Tornado Recovery Flyer provides additional information on how to apply.

The Ohio Individual Assistance Program has taken 25 registrations (22 Clermont County and 3 Brown County); 20 cases have been approved for a total of \$140,398.00; 1 case was denied due to insurance, 4 are pending (1 needs a SBA decision; 3 need additional documentation). The average grant is \$7,020. Three were granted the maximum of \$18,700.00

SBA and Ohio Individual Assistance Program will be in Moscow, Tuesday, April 17 – Saturday, April 21. The hours of operation will be 11 am to 7 pm (tentatively). The LTRC needs to find a trailer for SBA and Ohio Individual Assistance to work out of during that week. The LTRC will work on getting the New Richmond River Days Trailer.

The Clermont County Fair Board established a facebook page. Thalia Ghiglia has volunteered to help Lori Cornwell manage the page.

Other issues that have been raised:

- Establishing a lost and found as personal items may be found in the debris clean up.
- Transportation for Moscow residents
 - Need to identify purpose (To/From)
 - Number of riders
 - Dates and Times transportation is needed
 - Potential providers: CTC, Senior Services, Veterans Administration, Churches
- Post Office Hours – Hours have been reduced to 7:30 am to 2:00 pm Monday - Saturday

Case Management

Individuals and families need to go through the Small Business Administration and State of Ohio Individual Assistance process. The LTRC needs to be careful not to provide support prior to the notification on SBA and Individual Assistance, because it could potential hurt the assistance the individual/family receives from those programs. The application period for SBA is open until May 14th. Ohio Individual Assistance will be open until all SBA cases are closed. Residents who registered at the Recovery Center should have received a letter from Ohio EMA. Individuals with insurance who have unmet needs should still fill with SBA and Individual Assistance.

The release for the Federal Home Loan Bank Disaster Reconstruction Program has opened up new questions. We are capturing Frequently Asked Questions and they will be posted on the County website.

Bev has received questions about vehicles that were damaged in the Village during the storm when the car owner is not a resident, but was visiting. It was recommended to apply for SBA low interest loans.

Bev was in the Village of Moscow on Monday from 12 pm to 3 pm. She spoke with 11 households. She will be back in Moscow Thursday, April 5th from 3 pm to 7 pm.

Other Business

The LTRC discussed a Celebration Ceremony in the Village of Moscow as a fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity.

Habitat for Humanity is offering a workshop on April 21st to assist affiliates with expediting the process.

Case Management training has been scheduled

- Holten, Indiana on April 10 -11, 2012
- Plumb Creek, KY on April 23 – 24, 2012

We are in need of 8 to 10 case managers. A job description will be distributed to the group.

Mary Woodward can provide training on Construction Estimating.

Is there a need for Prom Dresses and Suits?

- St. Vincent de Paul can provide vouchers to their stores
- Kenzie's Closet may be an option
- Advocates are reaching out to the schools to identify the need.

CAN (Coordinated Assistance Networks) Training - Webinars

- Orientation – April 11 at 3 pm
- Client Registry – April 12 at 3 pm
- Resource Database – April 19 at 1 pm